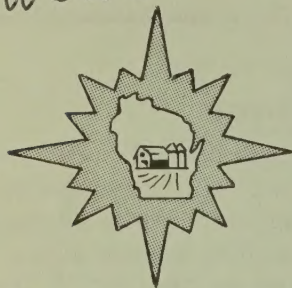


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WISCONSIN *Farm Reporter*

- Dairy
- Crops
- Livestock

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April 1975

Cream of the News

Lower prices in 1974 caused a sharp drop in cash receipts from farm marketings of livestock.

Milk production on Wisconsin farms in March was up 2 percent from a year ago and the National output also showed a gain.

Wholesale prices of cheddar cheese increased from February to March but Swiss cheese and butter remained about the same.

Wool production in Wisconsin and the Nation declined during 1974 and prices also were well below 1973.

Milk prices received by Wisconsin farmers in March are expected to average slightly higher than in February.

Beef production in Wisconsin's commercial slaughtering plants during February was up 10 percent from the previous year but output of pork declined 8 percent.

Farm product prices as of mid-March were up from a month earlier for most livestock, milk, eggs, and hay but down for calves, poultry, and crops.

Cold storage stocks of meat in the Nation at the end of March were 17 percent below a year ago.

The number of cattle on feed in the 23 major feeding states on April 1 was 31 percent under a year earlier but Wisconsin feeders had 6 percent more cattle on feed.

Prices for fed steers and utility cows at the St. Paul market increased from February to March but prices of barrows and gilts remained unchanged.

Butter production in Wisconsin and the Nation during February was well above last year but cheese production was down.

Cold storage stocks of butter in the Nation at the end of March were 2 percent below the previous year but cheese stocks were up 1 percent.

STATE'S MILK PRODUCTION ABOVE MARCH LAST YEAR

Milk production on Wisconsin farms in March totaled 1,644 million pounds, up 2 percent from a year ago. Output per cow for March averaged 910 pounds, a gain of 10 pounds from March 1973. The number of milk cows on farms during March was 9,000 more than a year earlier.

Wisconsin's milk production increased seasonally 17 percent from February to March compared with a gain of 15 percent for that period last year. For the first quarter of 1975, production of milk in Wisconsin was slightly above that period last year. Daily feeding of grain and other concentrates to Wisconsin milk cows averaged 12.4 pounds as of April 1, down about 1 pound from that date in 1974.

The Nation's milk production in March was up almost a half percent from a year ago. Although milk cow numbers during March were below the previous year, production per cow was up 8 pounds. The milk-fed price ratio for March improved from February but was 7 percent under March 1974. Feeding of grain and concentrates averaged 13.2 pounds per cow on April 1 compared with 13.8 pounds a year earlier.

Milk Production

Selected States	March 1974	March 1975	Jan.-March 1975	Change from last year	
				March	Jan.-March
	Million pounds			Percent	
Wisconsin	1,618	1,644	4,547	+ 2	n. c.
Minnesota . . .	921	890	2,469	- 3	- 3
Iowa	333	334	951	n. c.	- 1
New York . . .	854	883	2,472	+ 3	+ 3
Pennsylvania . .	585	599	1,698	+ 2	+ 3
California . . .	884	892	2,518	+ 1	+ 2
Other states . .	4,793	4,781	13,437	n. c.	n. c.
United States .	9,988	10,023	28,092	n. c.	n. c.

MILK PRICE UP SLIGHTLY IN MARCH

Wisconsin dairy farmers are expected to receive an average of \$7.53 a hundredweight for all milk of average test sold in March. This would be 2 cents higher than in February

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but well below the record price of \$8.71 a hundredweight for March 1974.

Milk prices during February averaged \$7.51 a hundredweight, up 1 cent from January but \$1.17 below a year earlier. The average milkfat content for February was 3.80 percent compared with 3.76 percent last year.

Milk of market grade averaged \$7.80 a hundredweight for February, down 2 cents from the previous month and \$1.02 less than in February 1974. Manufacturing grade milk, at \$7.09 a hundredweight in February, was 6 cents above January but \$1.38 under a year ago. The price spread between market and manufacturing grade milk was 71 cents in February compared with 35 cents in February last year.

Milk Prices 1/

Selected States	January 1975		February price per cwt.			March 1975 price per cwt. 2/
	Average test	Price per cwt.	1974	1975	75/74 change	
	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	Dollars
Milk for all uses						
Wisconsin	3.84	7.50	8.68	7.51	- 13	7.53
Minnesota	3.71	7.07	8.23	7.14	- 13	7.13
Iowa	3.83	7.39	8.68	7.38	- 15	7.35
New York	3.64	8.20	8.90	8.20	- 8	7.95
California	3.86	9.00	7.70	8.90	+ 16	8.60
United States	3.80	8.33	8.92	8.28	- 7	8.17
Wisconsin utilization						
Market milk	3.86	7.82	8.82	7.80	- 12	xxx
Manufacturing milk	3.80	7.03	8.47	7.09	- 16	xxx
Creameries	3.74	6.96	8.42	7.01	- 17	xxx
Cheese factories . . .	3.81	7.03	8.47	7.08	- 16	xxx
Varied prod. plants	3.79	7.02	8.48	7.08	- 17	xxx

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. They differ from basic buying prices which are for 3.5% milk. 2/Based on preliminary information for milk of average test.

Wisconsin 3.5 Test Milk Prices 1/

Utilization	February 1974	January 1975	February 1975 2/	Change from last year
	Dollars per cwt.			Percent
Milk for all uses	8.08	6.84	6.92	- 14
Market milk	8.17	7.09	7.13	- 13
Manufacturing milk	7.97	6.48	6.60	- 17
Creameries	7.97	6.51	6.65	- 17
American cheese plants	7.96	6.45	6.58	- 17
Varied products plants	7.96	6.48	6.63	- 17
Federal Order Markets				
Chicago Regional Base Zone . .	8.67	7.42	7.44	- 14

1/Computed equivalents. 2/Preliminary.

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MARCH BUTTER PRODUCTION SUBSTANTIALLY ABOVE YEAR AGO

Weekly estimates for March indicate that butter production in Wisconsin and the Nation will be substantially higher than a year ago. National output of butter in March could be a fourth larger than last year. This increase would be similar to that shown in the first two months of 1975. Wisconsin's butter production during March will likely exceed the 24 percent increase for January and February.

Based on weekly estimates, production of American cheese in the Nation during March may be a fifth lower than a year earlier. The Nation's American cheese production for January and February was down 18 percent from those months in 1974. Output of American cheese in Wisconsin during March could decline slightly more than the 14 percent drop shown in January and February.

Recent Changes in Butter and Cheese Output

Periods	Butter			American Cheese		
	United States		Wisconsin	United States		Wisconsin
	Production 1975	Change from last year	Change from last year	Production 1975	Change from last year	Change from last year
	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent
February . .	90,371	+ 31	+ 35	122,118	- 20	- 16
Jan.-Feb. . .	187,721	+ 26	+ 24	252,720	- 18	- 14
Weeks ending:						
March 6 . .	21,570	+ 25	+ 32	32,000	- 20	- 18
March 13 . .	21,900	+ 38	+ 45	31,520	- 21	- 19
March 20 . .	22,000	+ 25	+ 56	32,450	- 22	- 19
March 27 . .	21,500	+ 17	+ 19	33,580	- 19	- 16
April 3 . .	22,620	+ 18	+ 20	34,300	- 18	- 15
Total	109,590	+ 24	xxx	163,850	- 20	xxx

FEBRUARY BUTTER PRODUCTION WELL ABOVE YEAR EARLIER

Butter production in Wisconsin and the Nation during February was well above a year ago. Wisconsin creameries churned nearly 19 million pounds of butter in February, an increase of 35 percent from last year. Minnesota's butter output for February was up 11 percent from a year earlier. Iowa produced 82 percent more butter in February than a year ago while other states showed a gain of 37 percent. The National butter output for February was 31 percent higher than in February 1974.

Production of all cheese in the Nation during February was 12 percent under the previous year. Output of American cheese was down 20 percent and Swiss cheese production was 14 percent less than in February last year. Brick and Muenster production for February remained about the same as a year ago but output of Italian cheese increased 5 percent and all other varieties were up 18 percent.

American cheese production in Wisconsin during February was 16 percent below a year earlier. Minnesota had a decline of 15 percent, Missouri was down 68 percent, and all other states produced 21 percent less American cheese than in February 1974.

The Nation's cottage cheese production in February showed little change from a year ago but output of ice cream was up 5 percent.

Current Dairy Products Estimates

Item and area	February 1974	February 1975	Jan. - Feb. 1975	Change from last year	
				February	Jan.-Feb.
	1,000 pounds			Percent	
BUTTER					
Wisconsin	13,950	18,800	38,300	+ 35	+ 24
Minnesota	17,900	19,800	41,325	+ 11	+ 10
Iowa	2,280	4,150	8,600	+ 82	+ 69
Other states	34,863	47,621	99,496	+ 37	+ 31
United States	68,993	90,371	187,721	+ 31	+ 26
CHEESE, AMERICAN					
Wisconsin	63,750	53,500	110,100	- 16	- 14
Minnesota	23,140	19,700	41,360	- 15	- 15
Missouri	8,000	2,550	5,150	- 68	- 64
Other states	58,662	46,368	96,110	- 21	- 17
United States	153,552	122,118	252,720	- 20	- 18
CHEESE, MISCELLANEOUS					
United States					
Swiss	13,262	11,457	24,407	- 14	- 10
Brick and Muenster.	5,770	5,752	11,319	n. c.	n. c.
Italian	45,682	48,124	99,264	+ 5	+ 4
All other	13,904	16,416	32,455	+ 18	+ 3
Total	78,618	81,749	167,445	+ 4	+ 1
ALL CHEESE					
United States	232,170	203,867	420,165	- 12	- 11
OTHER PRODUCTS					
Cottage Cheese					
United States					
Curd 1/	55,673	55,611	111,933	n. c.	+ 1
Creamed 2/	68,882	68,945	140,722	n. c.	+ 1
	1,000 gallons			Percent	
Ice Cream					
Wisconsin	1,250	1,200	2,550	- 4	+ 2
Illinois	3,300	2,950	5,800	- 11	- 10
Iowa	550	720	1,400	+ 31	+ 35
Michigan	2,877	3,155	5,835	+ 10	+ 11
Minnesota	2,135	2,050	4,215	- 4	- 4
Other states	46,677	49,797	98,685	+ 7	+ 8
United States	56,789	59,872	118,485	+ 5	+ 7

1/Includes cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese with a milkfat content of less than 4 percent. 2/Includes cheese with a milkfat content of 4 to 19 percent.

BUTTER STOCKS BELOW LAST YEAR

Cold storage stocks of butter in the Nation at the end of March were down 2 percent from a year earlier. This was the first time since July 1974 that butter stocks were below the previous year. Of the 57 million pounds of butter in storage on March 31, the Government held nearly 26 million pounds. Government butter stocks were more than triple the total in cold storage March 31, 1974.

The Nation's cheese stocks in cold storage at the end of March were up 1 percent from a year ago. This was the

Cold Storage Stocks of Butter and Cheese

Commodity	March 31, 1973	March 31, 1974	March 31, 1975	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
	UNITED STATES			
Butter	117,183	58,126	56,935	- 2
Cheese, American	244,955	363,792	383,117	+ 5
Cheese, Swiss	8,713	15,891	11,527	- 27
Cheese, all other	48,770	59,172	48,899	- 17
Cheese, total	302,438	438,855	443,543	+ 1
	WISCONSIN			
Butter	7,212	2,397	4,125	+ 72
Cheese, American	160,571	201,889	200,251	- 1
	GOVERNMENT STOCKS*			
Butter	102,623	7,637	25,766	+ 237
Cheese, American	173	544	2,769	+ 409

*Included in above totals.

Manufacturers' Stocks of Other Dairy Products
United States

Commodity	Feb. 28, 1973	Feb. 28, 1974	Feb. 28, 1975	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
Dried whole milk	4,112	7,768	7,357	- 5
Dried skim milk	37,724	53,202	117,639	+ 121
Dried buttermilk	4,100	6,160	6,386	+ 4
Condensed milk and evaporated milk (case goods) 1/	55,159	57,502	61,768	+ 7

1/Combined to avoid disclosing individual plant operations.

smallest increase for cheese stocks since November 1973. Although stocks of American cheese were 5 percent above last year, Swiss cheese supplies were down 27 percent and all other cheese stocks were 17 percent less than on March 31, 1974.

WHOLESALE CHEDDAR CHEESE PRICE HIGHER IN MARCH

Wholesale prices of cheddar cheese in 40 pound blocks averaged 77.38 cents a pound at Wisconsin primary markets during March, a gain of ½ cent from February. However, the cheddar price was almost 14 cents below March 1974.

Swiss cheese, Wisconsin State Brand, averaged nearly \$1.02 a pound wholesale in March. This was the same as a month earlier but almost 8 cents under last year.

The 92-score wholesale butter price of 69¼ cents a pound for March was about the same as in February but more than ½ cent below a year earlier.

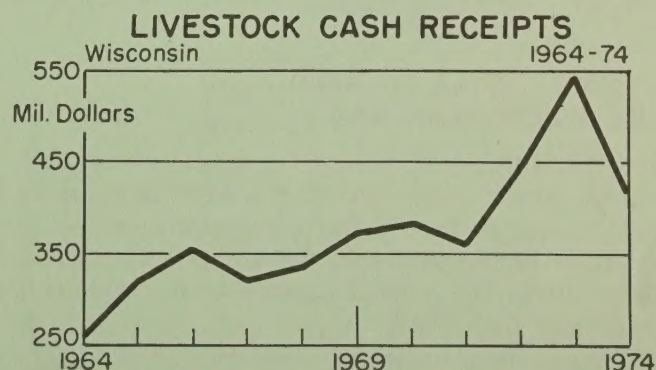
Wholesale Dairy Prices

Commodity	March 1974	February 1975	March 1975 1/
Butter, 92-score, New York, pound	69.81¢	69.27¢	69.25¢
Cheese, Cheddars, Wisconsin primary markets, 40 lb. blocks, pound 2/	91.25¢	76.88¢	77.38¢
Cheese, Swiss, Wisconsin State Brand, block pound 2/	109.50¢	101.75¢	101.75¢
Evaporated milk, North Central States, case, 48-14½ oz. cans, range	\$11.30-11.87	\$11.90-12.49	\$ - - -
Nonfat dry milk solids, spray, Chicago area, pound	61.52¢	59.24¢	60.58¢

1/Preliminary estimates. 2/Selling prices, f.o.b. at Wisconsin assembly points.

LIVESTOCK CASH RECEIPTS DOWN SHARPLY IN 1974

Lower prices in 1974 caused a sharp drop in cash receipts from farm marketings of livestock. Cash receipts from the sale of cattle, calves, hogs, and sheep and lambs totaled \$424 million in 1974, a decline of 22 percent from 1973.



Cattle prices averaged \$27.70 a hundredweight for 1974, down \$6.60 from the previous year. Calves, at \$38.50 a hundredweight in 1974 were well below the record price of \$58.90 received in 1973. Hogs averaged \$32.70 a hundredweight during 1974, a decline of \$4.80 from a year earlier. Sheep returned an average of \$8.25 a hundredweight for last year, down \$1.75 from 1973. Lambs went against the trend of lower livestock prices by averaging \$34.80 a hundred-

weight in 1974 an increase of \$3.40 from the previous year.

On the pound basis, marketings of cattle and calves in 1974 were 9 percent below 1973 and cash receipts declined 30 percent. Total pounds of hogs marketed during 1974 were up 4 percent but cash receipts dropped 9 percent. Marketings of sheep and lambs in 1974 were 15 percent under a year earlier on the pound basis and cash receipts were down 5 percent.

CATTLE AND CALVES: Production and Income, Wisconsin, 1965 - 74

Year	Production 1/ 1,000 pounds	Marketings 2/ 1,000 pounds	Price per 100 pounds		Cash receipts 1,000 dollars	Value of home consumption 1,000 dollars	Gross income 1,000 dollars	Cost of inshipments 1,000 dollars
			Cattle	Calves				
1965	1,054,655	1,216,095	14.70	23.60	192,568	8,071	200,639	5,572
1966	982,275	1,067,117	17.90	28.40	205,755	9,849	215,604	9,139
1967	998,005	1,017,580	17.90	29.00	197,730	10,849	208,579	8,593
1968	983,860	1,002,279	18.50	31.30	203,775	10,839	214,614	8,286
1969	974,775	971,847	21.10	34.50	224,109	14,231	238,340	11,638
1970	1,037,190	942,058	22.00	38.10	230,039	18,161	248,200	14,256
1971	1,016,690	906,412	22.50	39.80	229,887	19,594	249,481	3/
1972	1,004,450	961,994	26.70	47.30	287,765	21,500	309,265	3/
1973	936,170	905,644	34.30	58.90	343,707	19,612	363,319	3/
1974	1,024,840	821,048	27.70	38.50	240,571	34,682	275,253	3/

1/Adjustments made for numbers shipped in and changes in inventory. 2/Excludes inter-farm sales. 3/Discontinued.

HOGS: Production and Income, Wisconsin, 1965 - 74

Year	Production 1/ 1,000 pounds	Marketings 2/ 1,000 pounds	Price per 100 pounds		Cash receipts 1,000 dollars	Value of home consumption 1,000 dollars	Gross income 1,000 dollars	Cost of inshipments 1,000 dollars
			Hogs	Pigs				
1965	642,695	658,070	18.90		124,375	3,353	127,728	47
1966	682,540	623,196	23.20		144,581	3,790	148,371	101
1967	678,734	661,846	18.80		124,427	2,978	127,405	97
1968	720,904	706,649	18.30		129,317	3,352	132,669	30
1969	657,487	656,894	21.90		143,860	3,548	147,408	84
1970	716,766	678,538	22.50		152,671	3,544	156,215	96
1971	726,983	732,262	17.80		130,343	2,703	133,046	3/
1972	614,036	631,887	24.90		157,340	4,202	161,542	3/
1973	558,813	529,527	37.50		198,573	7,518	206,091	3/
1974	552,665	553,280	32.70		180,923	8,829	189,752	3/

1/Adjustments made for numbers shipped in and changes in inventory. 2/Excludes inter-farm sales. 3/Discontinued.

SHEEP AND LAMBS: Production and Income, Wisconsin, 1965 - 74

Year	Production 1/ 1,000 pounds	Marketings 2/ 1,000 pounds	Price per 100 pounds		Cash receipts 1,000 dollars	Value of home consumption 1,000 dollars	Gross income 1,000 dollars	Cost of inshipments 1,000 dollars
			Sheep	Lambs				
1965	12,036	13,713	5.20	21.20	2,684	44	2,729	236
1966	11,346	12,647	5.60	22.00	2,591	60	2,651	367
1967	11,857	12,804	5.30	20.90	2,471	51	2,522	181
1968	12,140	13,763	5.30	23.30	2,798	60	2,858	291
1969	10,257	13,272	6.70	26.50	2,994	37	3,031	287
1970	9,796	12,211	6.20	25.10	2,657	35	2,692	265
1971	8,577	10,067	5.60	24.80	2,231	35	2,266	3/
1972	8,312	10,799	6.10	27.40	2,591	38	2,629	3/
1973	7,656	9,556	10.00	31.40	2,607	44	2,651	3/
1974	6,935	8,112	8.25	34.80	2,487	49	2,536	3/

1/Adjustments made for numbers shipped in and changes in inventory. 2/Excludes inter-farm sales. 3/Discontinued.

NATION'S CATTLE ON FEED WELL BELOW YEAR AGO

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter markets in the 23 major feeding states totaled 8,452,000 head on April 1, down 31 percent from a year earlier. Cattle on feed numbers in the Nation have been below the previous year since October 1973. The number on feed April 1 was the lowest for that date since 1963.

Placements of cattle and calves on feed in the 23 states

during the first quarter of 1975 were down 19 percent from the comparable quarter last year. Marketings of fed cattle in the past quarter were 9 percent under the January - March period in 1974. Expected marketings for April through June may be 25 percent below that quarter a year ago.

Wisconsin cattle feeders had 125,000 cattle and calves on feed April 1, up 6 percent from the previous year. Wisconsin was the only state showing an increase in the number

of cattle on feed. Iowa had the most cattle on feed April 1 but was 33 percent under a year earlier. The number on feed in Texas was 49 percent below April 1, 1974.

Cattle and Calves on Feed by Quarters
April 1, 1974, January 1, and April 1, 1975 1/

State	April 1, 1974	January 1, 1975	April 1, 1975	Change from last year
	1,000 head			Percent
Arizona	558	319	329	- 41
California	962	688	479	- 50
Colorado	864	755	667	- 23
Idaho	172	185	158	- 8
Illinois	500	500	500	n. c.
Indiana	245	250	230	- 6
Iowa	1,740	1,200	1,160	- 33
Kansas	1,080	920	860	- 20
Michigan	230	200	180	- 22
Minnesota	430	380	325	- 24
Missouri	220	200	175	- 20
Montana	114	79	62	- 46
Nebraska	1,380	1,160	960	- 30
New Mexico	235	135	125	- 47
North Dakota	41	36	31	- 24
Ohio	263	290	240	- 9
Oklahoma	289	232	207	- 28
Oregon	60	65	55	- 8
Pennsylvania	78	83	74	- 5
South Dakota	360	345	270	- 25
Texas	2,219	1,327	1,122	- 49
Washington	152	135	118	- 22
Wisconsin	118	135	125	+ 6
23 States	12,310	9,619	8,452	- 31

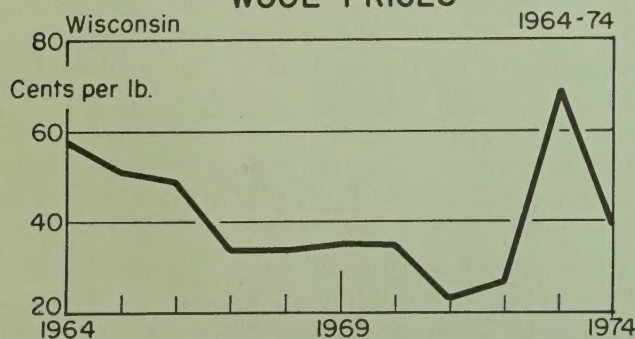
1/Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fattened for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates which are expected to produce a carcass that will grade good or better.

**WOOL PRODUCTION AND
PRICES DOWN IN 1974**

Wool production in Wisconsin and the Nation declined during 1974 and prices also dropped sharply. The 1974 wool crop of 734,000 pounds in Wisconsin was 11 percent below 1973 and the smallest crop ever produced in the State. Fleece weights averaged 7.9 pounds for 1974, only slightly less than 1973 but the number of sheep shorn at 93,000 was down 10 percent. Wool prices in Wisconsin averaged only 40 cents a pound during 1973 compared with 69 cents the previous year. With both production and prices lower, the value of the 1974 Wisconsin wool crop was 48 percent less than in 1973.

Nationally, wool production in 1974 was 10 percent below 1973. Fleece weights for 1974 were nearly comparable to the previous year but the number shorn was down and pulled wool production was also lower. The average price received by producers for shorn wool was about 59 cents a pound in 1974 compared with almost 83 cents in 1973.

WOOL PRICES



Wool Production

Major States and United States	Number of sheep shorn		Weight per fleece		Wool production		
	1973	1974	1973	1974	1973	1974	Change from last year
	1,000 head		Pounds		1,000 pounds		Percent
Arizona	473	471	7.4	7.2	3,511	3,397	- 3
California	1,385	1,377	8.4	7.8	11,585	10,779	- 7
Colorado	1,440	1,277	7.9	7.8	11,354	9,999	- 12
Idaho	627	631	10.7	10.6	6,728	6,713	n. c.
Illinois	270	235	7.1	7.2	1,923	1,683	- 12
Indiana	205	190	8.0	7.7	1,640	1,466	- 11
Iowa	624	516	7.5	7.5	4,694	3,882	- 17
Kansas	294	268	8.3	7.9	2,444	2,116	- 13
Michigan	201	181	8.3	8.2	1,666	1,491	- 11
Minnesota	385	367	7.8	7.4	2,989	2,734	- 9
Missouri	194	200	7.8	7.5	1,521	1,507	- 1
Montana	774	704	9.9	10.1	7,663	7,143	- 7
Nebraska	324	285	7.3	7.3	2,369	2,087	- 12
Nevada	148	143	10.1	10.3	1,495	1,473	- 1
New Mexico	682	610	9.4	9.9	6,402	6,010	- 6
N. Dakota	301	284	9.3	9.3	2,799	2,648	- 5
Ohio	560	523	8.0	8.1	4,499	4,212	- 6
Oregon	567	515	7.4	7.5	4,206	3,846	- 9
Pennsylvania	132	120	7.2	7.0	950	840	- 12
S. Dakota	1,070	917	9.1	9.2	9,695	8,448	- 13
Texas	3,785	3,390	7.0	7.1	26,352	23,900	- 9
Utah	774	728	10.0	10.0	7,760	7,255	- 7
Virginia	161	158	6.1	6.0	982	948	- 3
Washington	126	115	9.2	9.1	1,161	1,048	- 10
West Virginia	136	125	5.8	5.8	789	725	- 8
Wisconsin	103	93	8.0	7.9	822	734	- 11
Wyoming	1,475	1,375	9.8	9.7	14,497	13,385	- 8
United States	17,598	16,142	8.3	8.2	145,239	132,931	- 8

**BEEF PRODUCTION HIGHER
BUT PORK OUTPUT DOWN**

Production of beef in Wisconsin's commercial slaughtering plants during February was up 10 percent from a year earlier but output of pork declined 8 percent. Total red meat production for February was about 3 percent more than in February 1974.

There were 106,000 cattle slaughtered in Wisconsin during February, an increase of 11,500 from a year ago. Average liveweight of cattle killed in February was 1,115 pounds, 27 pounds lighter than last year.

February's hog slaughter of 246,000 was 10,000 fewer than the previous year. Hogs butchered in February averaged 236 pounds liveweight, down 11 pounds from February 1974.

The 31,000 calves slaughtered in February were 9,400 more than a year earlier. Average liveweight of calves at 131 pounds for February was 24 pounds lighter than last year. Only 200 sheep and lambs were butchered in February, the same as a year ago.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter

Area	Number			Liveweight	
	February		Change from last year	February	
	1974	1975		1974	1975
	1,000 head		Percent	Million pounds	
Cattle					
Wisconsin	94.5	106.0	+ 12	107.9	118.2
United States 1/ . .	2,543.1	3,082.3	+ 21	2,702.6	3,148.4
Calves					
Wisconsin	21.6	31.0	+ 44	3.3	4.1
United States 1/ . .	185.3	329.6	+ 78	43.6	89.0
Hogs					
Wisconsin	256.0	246.0	— 4	63.2	58.1
United States 1/ . .	5,960.9	5,891.7	— 1	1,448.0	1,389.1
Sheep and lambs					
Wisconsin2	.2	n. c.	.020	.019
United States 1/ . .	628.8	586.5	— 7	69.4	62.6

1/Excludes Alaska.

Milk Cows, Production per Cow, and Total Milk Production, Wisconsin By Counties, 1972-74

County	1972			1973			1974 1/			
	Number of cows 2/	Milk per cow	Total production	Number of cows 2/	Milk per cow	Total production	Number of cows 2/	Milk per cow	Production	
									Quantity	Rank
	Number	Pounds	1,000 pounds	Number	Pounds	1,000 pounds	Number	Pounds	1,000 pounds	
Barron	47,900	10,300	493,370	47,800	9,900	473,220	48,400	10,000	484,000	10
Bayfield	6,100	9,900	60,390	5,900	9,700	57,230	5,900	9,700	57,230	60
Burnett	7,200	9,800	70,560	7,100	9,400	66,740	7,000	9,400	65,800	59
Chippewa	50,000	10,200	510,000	49,900	10,000	499,000	50,200	10,000	502,000	8
Douglas	3,000	9,700	29,100	2,700	9,400	25,380	2,700	9,400	25,380	65
Polk	34,700	10,300	357,410	34,600	10,100	349,460	35,200	10,100	355,520	22
Rusk	19,400	9,300	180,420	19,300	9,000	173,700	19,200	9,000	172,800	43
Sawyer	3,800	9,700	36,860	3,700	9,500	35,150	3,500	9,500	33,250	63
Washburn	6,000	9,700	58,200	5,900	9,600	56,640	5,800	9,600	55,680	61
Northwest District . .	178,100	10,086	1,796,310	176,900	9,816	1,736,520	177,900	9,846	1,751,660	
Ashland	4,200	9,800	41,160	3,800	9,500	36,100	3,700	9,500	35,150	62
Clark	67,200	10,400	698,880	66,800	10,200	681,360	67,200	10,200	685,440	3
Iron	900	9,600	8,640	800	9,300	7,440	700	9,300	6,510	68
Lincoln	11,900	9,800	116,620	11,500	9,400	108,100	11,700	9,400	109,980	52
Marathon	85,900	10,400	893,360	84,200	10,200	858,840	85,500	10,200	872,100	1
Oneida	800	9,200	7,360	500	9,000	4,500	400	9,000	3,600	70
Price	10,400	9,200	95,680	9,700	8,900	86,330	9,500	8,900	84,550	57
Taylor	30,000	10,200	306,000	29,700	9,900	294,030	29,600	9,900	293,040	29
Vilas	200	9,000	1,800	100	8,700	870	100	8,600	860	71
North Central District	211,500	10,258	2,169,500	207,100	10,032	2,077,570	208,400	10,035	2,091,230	
Florence	1,200	10,100	12,120	1,000	9,900	9,900	1,000	9,900	9,900	67
Forest	1,900	9,200	17,480	1,700	9,000	15,300	1,800	8,900	16,020	66
Langlade	13,100	9,900	129,690	12,600	9,800	123,480	12,700	9,800	124,460	49
Marinette	13,800	9,700	133,860	13,400	9,500	127,300	13,200	9,500	125,400	48
Menominee										
Oconto	29,600	10,000	296,000	29,400	9,700	285,180	29,400	9,700	285,180	30
Shawano 3/	46,000	10,700	492,200	45,800	10,500	480,900	46,400	10,500	487,200	9
Northeast District . .	105,600	10,240	1,081,350	103,900	10,029	1,042,060	104,500	10,030	1,048,160	
Buffalo	27,200	10,100	274,720	27,300	9,800	267,540	28,200	9,800	276,360	31
Dunn	40,700	10,200	415,140	40,700	10,000	407,000	40,800	10,000	408,000	15
Eau Claire	22,400	9,900	221,760	22,400	9,600	215,040	22,200	9,600	213,120	40
Jackson	18,800	9,800	184,240	18,600	9,700	180,420	18,700	9,700	181,390	41
La Crosse	21,400	10,200	218,280	21,400	10,000	214,000	21,500	10,000	215,000	39
Monroe	37,000	9,800	362,600	36,900	9,500	350,550	37,300	9,600	358,080	21
Pepin	9,900	10,100	99,990	9,900	9,900	98,010	9,900	9,900	98,010	53
Pierce	26,000	10,500	273,000	26,100	10,400	271,440	26,300	10,400	273,520	32
St. Croix	35,000	10,700	374,500	34,900	10,400	362,960	35,400	10,400	368,160	18
Trempealeau	35,000	10,300	360,500	35,000	10,200	357,000	35,500	10,200	362,100	20
West Central District .	273,400	10,186	2,784,730	273,200	9,971	2,723,960	275,800	9,985	2,753,740	
Adams	3,500	10,000	35,000	3,500	9,900	34,650	3,300	9,900	32,670	64
Green Lake	14,600	10,600	154,760	14,500	10,500	152,250	14,400	10,500	151,200	46
Juneau	12,800	10,100	129,280	12,700	9,900	125,730	12,800	9,900	126,720	47
Marquette	7,000	9,900	69,300	6,900	9,700	66,930	7,000	9,700	67,900	58
Portage	16,800	10,200	171,360	16,700	10,000	167,000	16,600	10,000	166,000	44
Waupaca	32,700	10,300	336,810	32,600	9,900	322,740	32,600	9,900	322,740	25
Waushara	12,000	10,400	124,800	11,900	10,100	120,190	11,900	10,200	121,380	50
Wood	25,000	10,100	252,500	24,900	9,700	241,530	25,300	9,700	245,410	37
Central District	124,400	10,240	1,273,810	123,700	9,952	1,231,020	123,900	9,960	1,234,020	
Brown	38,900	11,000	427,900	38,600	10,500	405,300	38,700	10,500	406,350	16
Calumet	31,000	11,200	347,200	30,700	10,800	331,560	30,000	10,800	324,000	24
Door	16,300	10,800	176,040	16,200	10,200	165,240	15,300	10,200	156,060	45
Fond du Lac	49,800	11,300	562,740	49,700	10,800	536,760	49,800	10,800	537,840	5
Kewaunee	30,400	10,500	319,200	30,000	10,100	303,000	30,100	10,100	304,010	27
Manitowoc	44,600	11,100	495,060	44,200	10,700	472,940	44,300	10,700	474,010	12
Outagamie	45,600	11,100	506,160	45,500	10,600	482,300	45,300	10,600	480,180	11
Sheboygan	33,000	10,900	359,700	32,600	10,500	342,300	31,800	10,600	337,080	23
Winnebago	24,500	11,300	276,850	24,100	10,800	260,280	23,700	10,800	255,960	34
East Central District .	314,100	11,050	3,470,850	311,600	10,589	3,299,680	309,000	10,600	3,275,490	
Crawford	19,700	9,600	189,120	19,300	9,400	181,420	18,500	9,400	173,900	42
Grant	55,200	10,200	563,040	55,000	9,700	533,500	55,000	9,700	533,500	6
Iowa	38,200	10,200	389,640	37,300	9,800	365,540	37,300	9,800	365,540	19
Lafayette	42,400	10,300	436,720	41,400	9,900	409,860	41,400	9,900	409,860	14
Richland	28,300	10,000	283,000	27,500	9,700	266,750	27,300	9,700	264,810	33
Sauk	38,100	10,600	403,860	37,700	10,300	388,310	37,700	10,300	388,310	17
Vernon	45,900	9,500	436,050	44,800	9,300	416,640	44,100	9,300	410,130	13
Southwest District . .	267,800	10,087	2,701,430	263,000	9,742	2,562,020	261,300	9,744	2,546,050	
Columbia	23,600	11,200	264,320	23,400	10,900	255,060	23,400	10,900	255,060	35*
Dane	68,300	11,200	764,960	67,500	10,900	735,750	66,000	10,900	719,400	2
Dodge	62,400	11,200	698,880	62,000	10,800	669,600	61,600	10,800	665,280	4
Green	48,400	11,000	532,400	48,100	10,700	514,670	47,900	10,700	512,530	7
Jefferson	30,700	11,000	337,700	30,200	10,800	326,160	29,200	10,900	318,280	26
Rock	30,300	10,900	330,270	30,000	10,600	318,000	28,000	10,600	296,800	28
South Central District	263,700	11,106	2,928,530	261,200	10,793	2,819,240	256,100	10,806	2,767,350	
Kenosha	9,500	11,200	106,400	9,000	10,700	96,300	8,200	10,700	87,740	55
Milwaukee	400	10,200	4,080	400	10,000	4,000	400	10,000	4,000	69
Ozaukee	10,500	10,500	110,250	10,400	10,100	105,040	9,700	10,100	97,970	54
Racine	8,000	11,300	90,400	7,900	10,900	86,110	8,000	10,900	87,200	56
Walworth	25,700	11,400	292,980	25,200	10,900	274,680	23,400	10,900	255,060	35*
Washington	23,500	11,000	258,500	23,000	10,700	246,100	22,900	10,700	245,030	38
Waukesha	14,800	10,600	156,880	13,500	10,200	137,700	11,500	10,200	117,300	51
Southeast District . .	92,400	11,033	1,019,490	89,400	10,626	949,930	84,100	10,634	894,300	
STATE	1,831,000	10,500	19,226,000	1,810,000	10,189	18,442,000	1,801,000	10,195	18,362,000	

1/Preliminary. 2/Average number of milk cows on farms during year, excluding heifers not yet fresh. 3/Includes Menominee. *Tied with 1 or more counties.

FARM PRODUCT PRICES GAIN SLIGHTLY IN MARCH

Prices received by Wisconsin farmers for all farm products sold during the month ending in mid-March were up slightly from mid-February. Higher prices for most livestock, milk, eggs, and alfalfa hay offset declines for calves, poultry, and crops. The index of prices received averaged 480 percent of the 1910-14 base as of March 15, a gain of 1 point from the previous month but well below a year ago when the index averaged 564 percent.

Milk cows averaged \$435.00 each in March, up \$15.00 from February and the first increase in a year. Last year milk cows averaged a record high of \$650.00 each. Calves, at \$29.30 a hundredweight for mid-March, were down 70 cents from the previous month and \$24.00 under last year.

Steers and heifers averaged \$30.50 a hundredweight as of March 15, a gain of 40 cents from February but nearly \$8.00 below a year earlier. Slaughter cow prices increased for the third consecutive month. At \$18.90 a hundredweight for March, slaughter cows were up 60 cents from February but well below the average of \$32.00 a hundredweight in March 1974.

Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers

Commodity	Unit	March 15, 1973	March 15, 1974	Feb. 15, 1975	March 15, 1975
Dollars					
Milk cows	Head	540.00	650.00	420.00	435.00
Steers and heifers	Cwt.	42.50	38.40	30.10	30.50
Cows	Cwt.	33.00	32.00	18.30	18.90
Calves	Cwt.	58.00	53.30	30.00	29.30
Hogs	Cwt.	37.50	34.20	37.90	37.90
Sheep	Cwt.	8.80	11.00	5.80	6.30
Lambs	Cwt.	34.00	34.50	35.00	35.50
Chickens 1/	Lb.	.120	.145	.130	.110
Turkeys	Lb.	.280	.350	.370	.360
Eggs	Doz.	.460	.572	.444	.469
Corn	Bu.	1.32	2.75	2.87	2.68
Wheat	Bu.	1.96	4.89	3.72	3.42
Oats	Bu.	.85	1.45	1.50	1.38
Soybeans	Bu.	6.00	5.74	5.58	5.13
Alfalfa hay, baled	Ton	34.50	35.00	38.50	40.50

1/Excludes broilers.

The mid-March hog price of \$37.90 a hundredweight was unchanged from the previous month but \$3.70 higher than last year. Sheep prices increased 50 cents from February to March but at \$6.30 a hundredweight were \$4.70 under a year ago. Lambs also gained 50 cents from February to March and at \$35.50 a hundredweight on March 15 were \$1.00 higher than last year.

Egg prices averaged almost 47 cents a dozen in mid-March. This was 2½ cents above the previous month but more than 10 cents below March 1974. Turkeys declined 1 cent from February to March but at 36 cents a pound live-weight were 1 cent greater than a year ago.

Corn prices declined for the fifth straight month. As of mid-March, corn averaged \$2.68 a bushel. This was 19 cents below February and 7 cents under last year. Corn prices had been above the previous year since August 1972.

Wheat dropped 30 cents a bushel from February to March. At \$3.42 a bushel on March 15, wheat was \$1.47 lower than in March 1974. Oats averaged \$1.38 a bushel in

March, down 12 cents from the previous month and 7 cents under a year earlier.

Soybeans averaged \$5.13 a bushel as of mid-March, a decline of 45 cents from February and 61 cents below last year. Prices received for baled alfalfa hay reached a record high of \$40.50 a ton in mid-March, an increase of \$2.00 from a month earlier and \$5.50 above March 1974.

MEAT STOCKS DOWN SUBSTANTIALLY

Stocks of meat in the Nation's cold storage facilities at the end of March were 17 percent below a year ago. Beef stocks were down 19 percent and the pork supplies in cold storage were 13 percent under March 31, 1974.

There were 385 million pounds of beef in cold storage at the end of March, a decline of 7 million pounds from a month earlier and more than 92 million pounds under last year.

Pork stocks in cold storage on March 31 amounted to 302 million pounds. Although this was a gain of 1 million pounds from the previous month, pork stocks were almost 45 million pounds lower than on March 31, 1974.

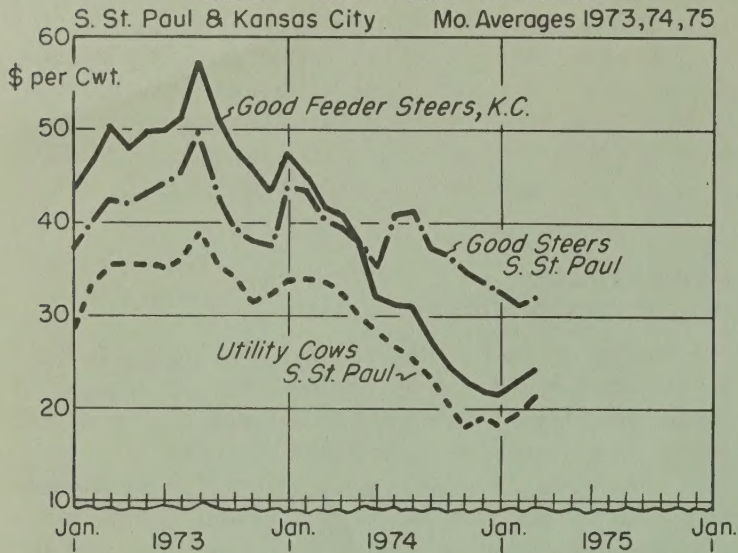
Cold Storage Stocks of Meat
United States

Commodity	Mar. 31, 1973	Mar. 31, 1974	Feb. 28, 1975	Mar. 31, 1975	Change from last year
1,000 pounds					Percent
Beef:					
Frozen	348,162	463,592	382,429	375,935	- 19
In cure and cured	11,161	13,486	9,280	8,823	- 35
Total	359,323	477,078	391,709	384,758	- 19
Pork:					
Frozen	222,322	327,526	286,473	287,822	- 12
In cooler	17,288	19,100	14,514	13,979	- 27
Total	239,610	346,626	300,987	301,801	- 13
Other meats and meat products:					
Veal, frozen	11,723	14,100	13,639	12,556	- 11
Lamb and mutton, frozen	10,920	13,749	10,862	8,855	- 36
Canned meats in cooler:					
Hams	49,515	77,460	67,356	67,023	- 13
Other meats	65,446	94,802	80,793	80,352	- 15
Total, all meats	687,022	946,355	797,990	788,322	- 17

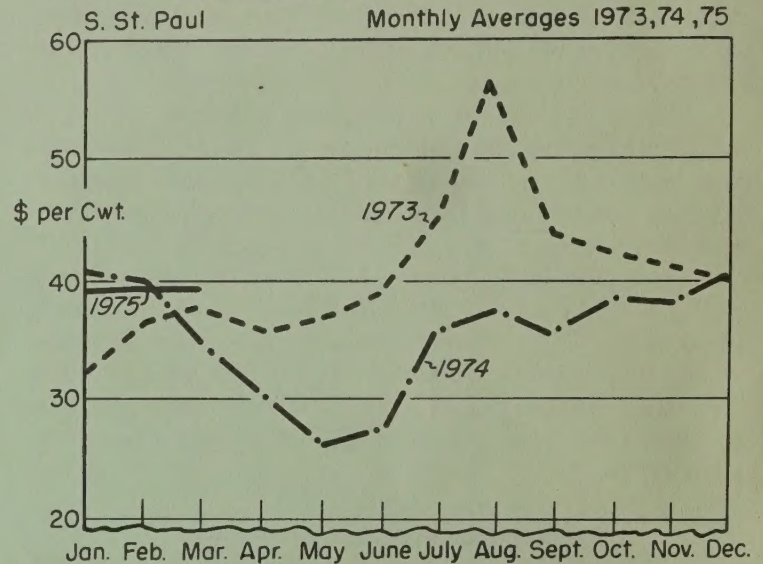
BEEF MARKET HIGHER

Prices for fed steers, utility cows, and feeder steers increased from February through March. Good grade fed steers weighing between 900-1100 pounds averaged about \$32.00 a hundredweight at the St. Paul market in March. This was an increase of 66 cents from February but well below the March 1974 average of \$40.23 a hundredweight. Utility cows at St. Paul averaged \$21.22 a hundredweight during March, up \$1.39 from the previous month but \$12.84 lower than a year ago.

Good grade feeder steers weighing between 600-700 pounds averaged \$24.34 a hundredweight at the Kansas City market during March, about \$1.00 more than in February but considerably under the March 1974 average of \$41.78 a hundredweight.

BEEF CATTLE PRICES**HOG PRICES STABLE**

Prices of barrows and gilts at the St. Paul market averaged \$39.24 a hundredweight during March, the same as in February. A year ago the average price of barrows and gilts was \$34.75 a hundredweight.

BARROW and GILT PRICES

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